Marco Rubio
Speaker

420 Capitol Building
(850) 488-1450

September 28, 2007

The Honorable Charlie Crist
Governor
The Capitol - PL-01
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050

Dear Governor Crist:

There are two issues which the Legislature has the opportunity to address in the coming weeks: property tax reform and mandatory auto insurance.

First, in regard to property taxes, there is no guarantee the appeal process is going to be successful. If the ballot language is not corrected before October 31, 2007, there will be no legislative remedy to preserve the January 29 vote. I know you share my desire for providing immediate property tax relief to the people. I urge you to use your constitutional authority to insure that the Legislature take up this issue before October 31, 2007.

Second, we are both aware of the hard work by both chambers to address mandatory auto insurance. In the House, Majority Whip Ellyn Bogdanoff has worked tirelessly to craft sensible and comprehensive anti-fraud legislation. With my full confidence, she has conducted lengthy and inclusive deliberations between the House and Senate, your office, various stakeholders, and legislators from both sides of the aisle, which ultimately yielded substantive compromise legislation.

We have not been able to reach an agreement to place this issue within the call of the Special Session scheduled to begin October 3, 2007. Nevertheless, the House has scheduled a hearing on this issue next week. Again, I urge you to consider using your constitutional authority to insure that the Legislature take up this issue during the upcoming special session.

We are keenly aware of, and appreciate, your respect and deference to the legislative process. However, with regard to these two issues, we have reached a point where without your leadership, the urgent needs of Floridians will not be addressed.

I look forward to continuing our work on behalf of the people of Florida in the coming weeks.

Sincerely,

Marco Rubio
Speaker